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For: Volume VII Distribution
Service Program Manual, Volume VII, Section III, Chapter D

Transmittal #215

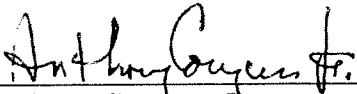
The purpose of this transmittal is to provide legislative changes made by the 2007 General Assembly and to update existing information to Volume VII, Section III, Chapter D, Adoption Non-Agency Placement and Other Court Services. The changes were effective July 1, 2007.

In addition to the substantive changes, there are changes in language, organization and formatting of Chapter D. Guidance revision is an evolving process and we welcome suggestions for future revisions of the chapter.

Substantive changes to Volume VII, Section III, Chapter D are as follows:

Changes in Chapter D, Effective July 1, 2007		
Sections	Pages	Substantive Changes
Definition of Fathers	Page 5	Updates code citations for definitions of fathers.
Definition of Fathers	Page 6	Updates code citations for definitions of fathers and provides a definition for a registered putative father.
Filling of Petition for Adoption	Page 8	Adds a statement that allows the court to waive application of a procedural provision that applies only to one adoptive parent for the spouse of that parent.
Consent	Pages 10	Adds requirement that consent be obtained from a registered putative father.
Investigative Report	Page 11	Requires an Investigative Report to have a statement in the report of the efforts made to encourage birth parents to share information related to all reasonably ascertainable background, medical and psychological records of the child have been provided to the prospective adoptive parents.
Parental Placement	Page 23	Requires that when a licensed child-placing agency or local board is requested to accept custody of a child for the purpose of placing the child with adoptive parent(s) recommended by the birth parent(s) or a person other than a licensed child-placing agency or local board, either the parental placement provisions or the agency provision shall

		apply to the adoption at the election of the birth parent(s).
Simultaneous Meeting	Page 25	Provides that a social worker must meet at least once with the birth parents and at least once with the prospective adoptive parents. If the birth parents and prospective adoptive parents agree the meeting may occur simultaneously.
Exchange of information	Page 30	Requires a statement in the report of home study to have the efforts made to encourage birth parents to share information related to all reasonably ascertainable background, medical and psychological records of the child have been provided to the prospective adoptive parents.
Consent	Pages 33	Adds requirement that consent to be obtained from a registered putative father.
Consent	Pages 50	Adds requirement that consent be obtained from a registered putative father.
Adoption Designated by Birth Parents, Physicians, Virginia Licensed Attorneys, and Clergymen	Page 62	Requires that when a licensed child-placing agency or local board is requested to accept custody of a child for the purpose of placing the child with adoptive parent(s) recommended by the birth parent(s) or a person other than a licensed child-placing agency or local board, either the parental placement provisions or the agency provision shall apply to the adoption at the election of the birth parent(s).
Simultaneous Meeting	Page 86	Provides that a social worker must meet at least once with the birth parents and at least once with the prospective adoptive parents. If the birth parents and prospective adoptive parents agree the meeting may occur simultaneously.
Suggested Format	Page 243	Adds suggested format for the Acknowledgement form.



 Anthony Conyers, Jr.
 Commissioner